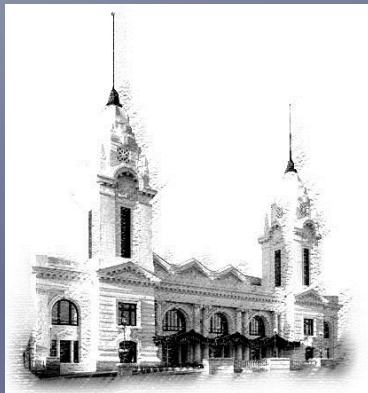


Massachusetts Statewide Transportation Coordination Conference

*Central
Massachusetts
Regional
Planning
Commission*

Marlborough, MA

May 5, 2015



What is a Regional Planning Agency?

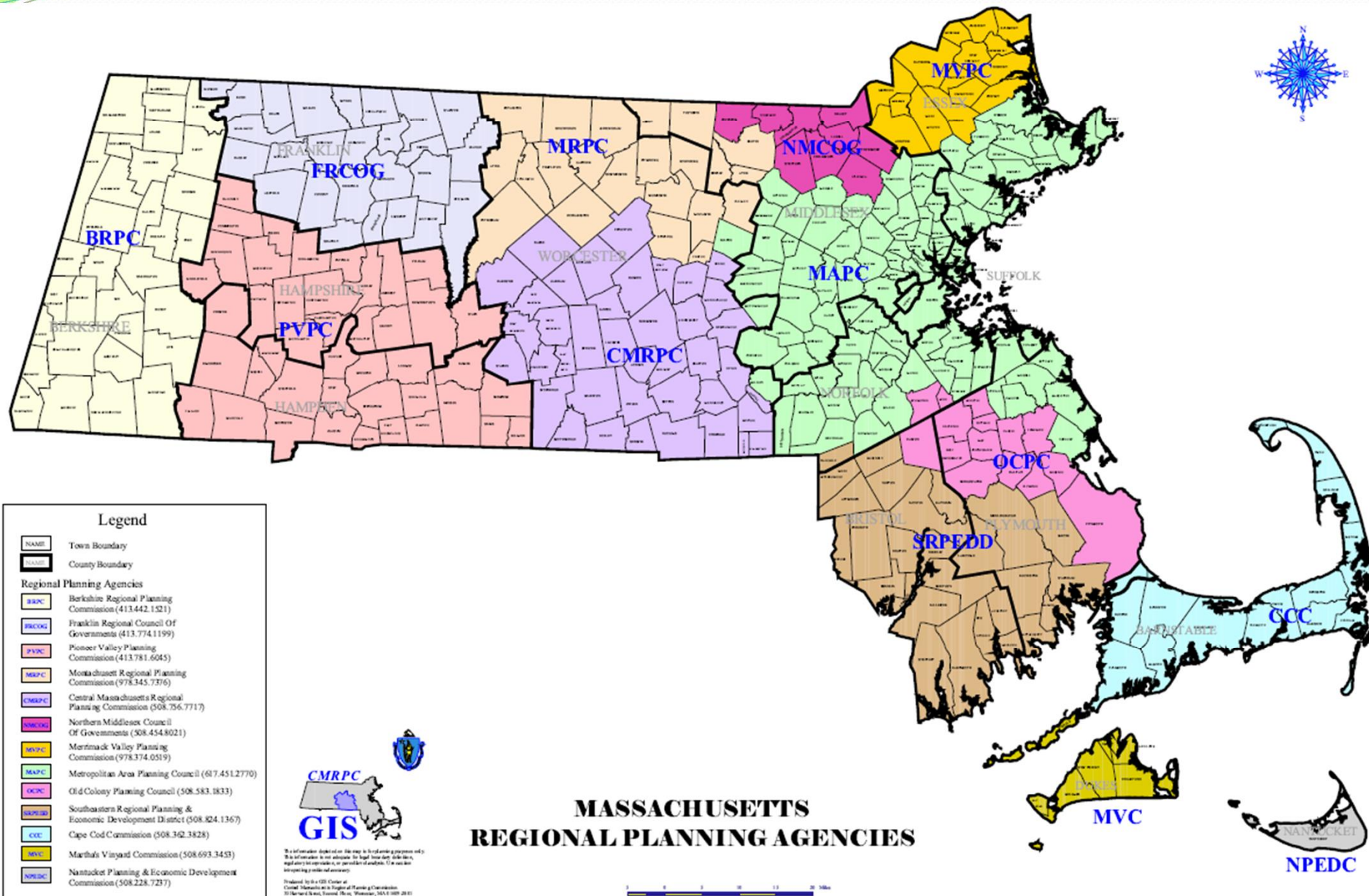
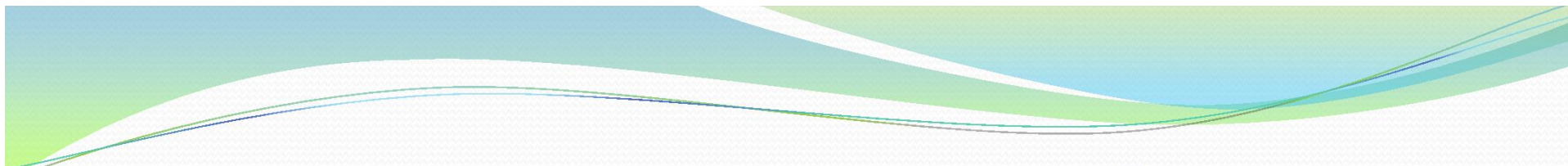
Created under
Massachusetts law

Deal with issues &
needs that cross
institutional,
political &
geographic
boundaries

13 agencies cover
all 351 cities and
towns

Provide variety of
services including
economic development,
community,
environmental &
transportation planning

Also provide regional
services such as joint
procurement and GIS
mapping



Central MA Regional Planning Commission

- Planning expertise for Worcester & surrounding 39 communities.
- Land Use, Transportation & GIS services
- Transportation Services:
 - *Traffic data collection and analysis*
 - *Traffic & Corridor studies*
 - *WRTA planning assistance*
 - *Pavement management and Sidewalk inventory*
 - *Neighborhood SAFE workshops*
- Staff to Central Mass. Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

What is a Metropolitan Planning organization?

- Federally mandated in the 1970's for transportation planning in major U.S. metro areas
- Consortium of:
 - *Governmental bodies*
 - *Transit authorities*
 - *Planning agencies*
 - *Local officials*
- Over 300 in the United States and 10 in Massachusetts
- Responsible for programming of all federal transportation funds

MPO function

- MPO regions provide transportation planning support for projects and initiatives:
 - *Highways*
 - *Bridges*
 - *Transit*
 - *Bikeways/Trails/Walkways*



Central MA Metropolitan Planning Organization



Selectman - North

Selectman - West

Selectman - Southwest

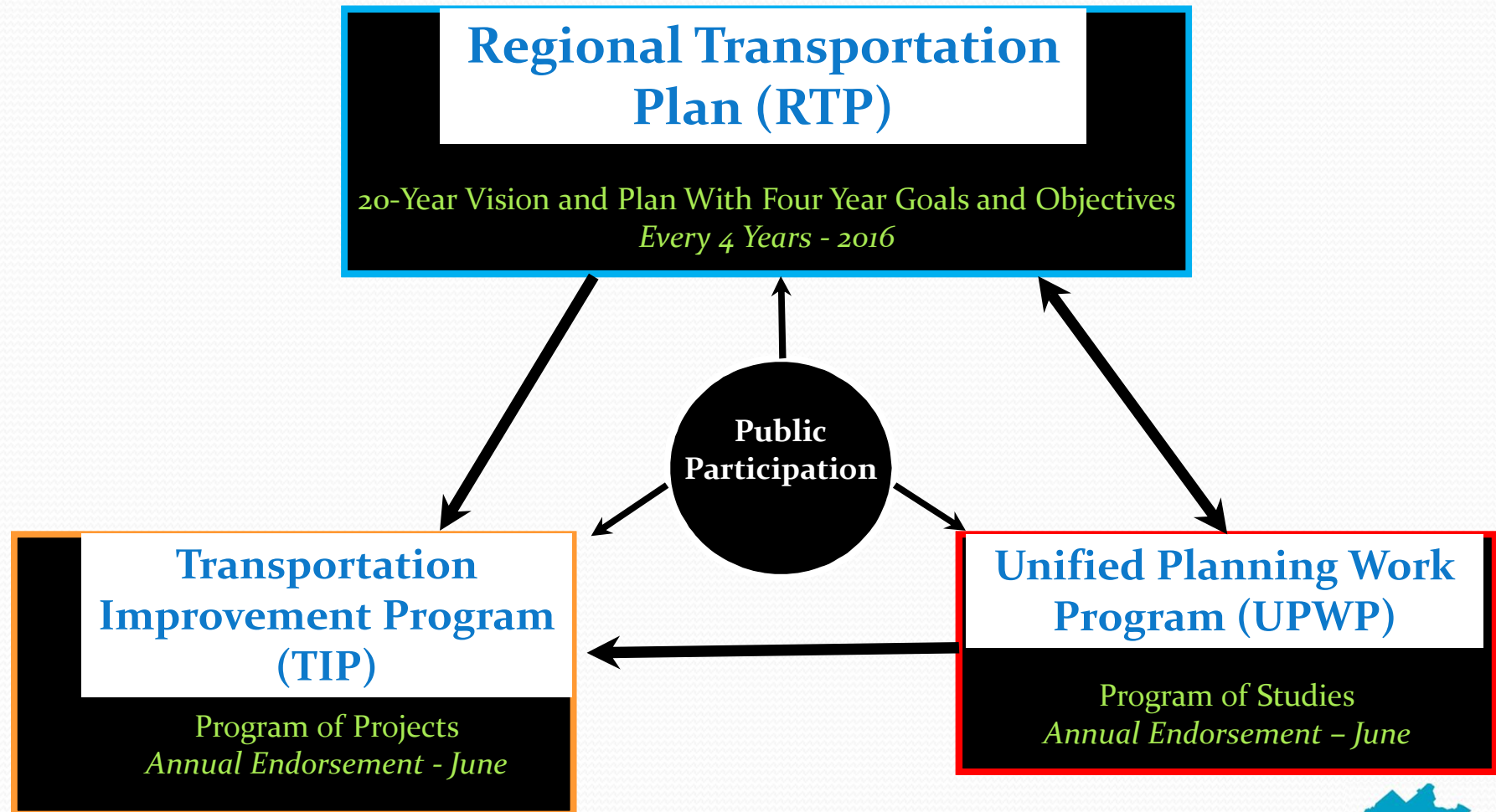


Selectman - Northeast

Worcester City Manager

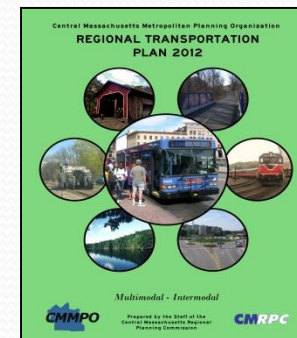
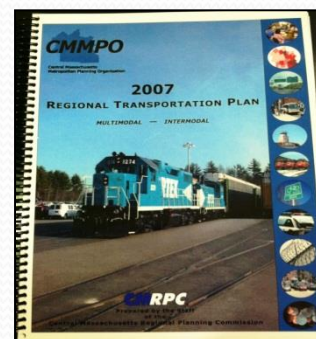
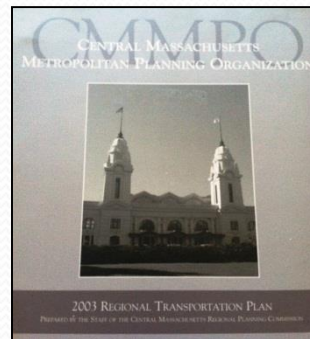
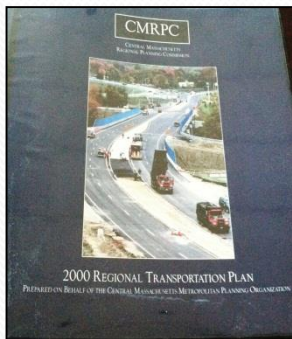
Selectman - Southeast

MPO Key Responsibilities



What is a Regional Transportation Plan?

- 20-year Plan for Region's Transportation System
- Updated every 4 years
- Identifies regional investment priorities
- Land Use/Community issues:
 - *Economic Development*
 - *Livability and Climate Change*
- **Public Input: Identifying sub-regional needs**



What is the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)?

- Annual list of MPO staff's work tasks
- Details funding & staff needed for each task
- Tasks should address RTP issues
- New document formulated & endorsed by MPO yearly
- **Public Input: Assist in determining staff's focus, such as**
 - Special studies
 - Working with Regional Coordinating Council
 - Assistance to Regional Transit Authority
 - Assisting Community Transit Grant applicants



What is the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?

- 4-year list of Federal and Non-federal Aid projects
- Financially Constrained
- Updated Yearly; Amended as needed
- Projects drawn from Plan (RTP)
- **Public Input: Prioritizing projects for Federal funding**



Current CMMPO TIP listing (2015-2018) first year projects

- Roadway – 9 projects - \$13.8 Million
- Bridges – No current projects
- Transit - \$12.1 Million
- Bikeway – Blackstone Valley Visitor Center & Worcester segment of Blackstone River Bikeway - \$3.5 Million



WHERE DO TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS COME FROM?

- Municipalities
- MassDOT
- Transit Agencies
- Private Carriers (Trucks, Trains, Buses, etc.)
- Corridor Studies
- Citizen Ideas/Public Outreach



Public outreach process

- Extensive effort to reach out to all stakeholders
- Month-long public review of all major document changes



- Work with municipalities to understand process
- Meet on a regular basis with major stakeholder groups, such as Regional Coordinating Councils



Questions??